Quarterly Population Report

First Quarter 2015

Alberta leads the provinces in population growth[1]

Despite the economic slowdown, Alberta continues to add people from other provinces. In the first quarter of 2015, another strong inflow of interprovincial migrants helped offset net outflows of non-permanent residents (NPRs). While population growth continues to trend lower, Alberta has maintained its position as provincial growth leader since the first quarter of 2011.

As of April 1, 2015 Alberta's population was estimated to be 4,175,409, an increase of 15,365 over the previous three months (Table 1). This gave a quarterly growth rate of 0.37%, the strongest of all the provinces.

Year-over-year, Alberta's population growth of 2.17%[2] also led the provinces, more than doubling the national average (0.94%) (Table 2). This is the first time since the second quarter of 2012 that the addition of new residents to the province has dipped below 100,000 (with 88,770 new residents).

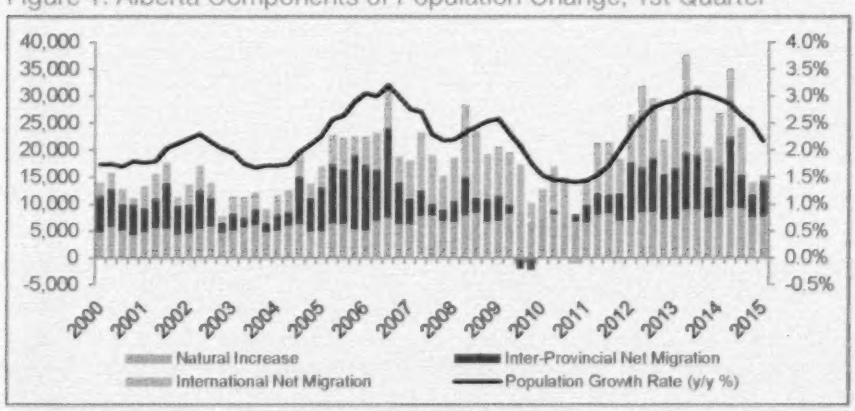
1 All data are from Statistics Canada. Estimates from 2007–2015 are based on the 2011 Census adjusted for net census undercount and incompletely enumerated Indian Reserves. All estimates are subject to revision.

2 This growth represents year-over-year variation (April 1, 2014 to April 1, 2015).

Table 1: Population & Growth Rates Canada and Alberta

Population			Yearly Growth Rate		
1-Apr	Canada	Alberta	1-Apr	Canada	Alberta
2010	33,889,957	3,715,456	2010	1.13%	1.53%
2011	34,230,654	3,768,845	2011	1.01%	1.44%
2012	34,622,312	3,856,669	2012	1.14%	2.33%
2013	35,019,870	3,969,499	2013	1.15%	2.93%
2014	35,416,179	4,086,639	2014	1.13%	2.95%
2015	35,749,600	4,175,409	2015	0.94%	2.17%

Figure 1: Alberta Components of Population Change, 1st Quarter



Migration

Migration continued to boost Alberta's population in the first quarter, albeit at a much slower pace than in the recent past. The province welcomed 7,723 net migrants from other parts of Canada and the world; a slight increase from the previous quarter (6,530). In the past two quarters, net migration has fallen to its lowest level since early 2011 (Figure 1).

Interprovincial migration

Alberta led the nation with the strongest net inflow of migrants from other parts of the country (6,732). Interprovincial migration accounted for about 44% of the province's growth. While Alberta continues to add people from other provinces, inflows are moderating.

Besides Alberta, only British Columbia (3,806) experienced large net interprovincial gains this quarter. The largest net outflows

Table 2: Population of Provinces/ Territories as of April 1, 2015 and Growth Rates since April 1, 2014

	Population	Growth Rate (y/y)
Canada	35,749,600	0.94%
NL	525,756	-0.25%
PEI	146,293	0.35%
NS	942,926	0.08%
NB	753,319	-0.11%
QC	8,245,470	0.67%
ON	13,750,073	0.81%
MB	1,292,151	1.22%
SK	1,134,402	1.27%
AB	4,175,409	2.17%
BC	4,666,892	1.09%
YT	36,789	1.56%
NWT	43,234	-1.12%
NVT	36,886	1.75%

were experienced by Ontario (-3,443), Quebec (-2,605) and Manitoba (-1,541) (Table 4). Most of the newcomers to Alberta were from Ontario (3,177), followed by Quebec (987), Manitoba (927) and Saskatchewan (845) (Map 1). For those Albertans leaving the province they headed mostly to British Columbia (-1,118) and this outflow has increased from the last two quarters (-548 in the fourth quarter and -640 in the third quarter).

Net International Migration

Net international migration this quarter was more muted than recent first quarter highs. Alberta welcomed 991 residents from other countries, accounting for only 0.02% of Alberta's growth this quarter.

The province settled 8,187 new permanent residents in the first quarter of 2015, which is high for the first quarter, but in line with the last few years. In terms of the share of immigrants to Canada, Ontario has always been a strong receiver, attracting 38.7% this quarter. Alberta attracted 16.0% of the immigrants, which rivals the record set in the first quarter of 2014 (16.1%).

In the past few years, strong inflows of net NPRs have helped boost Alberta's population growth, but outflows this quarter have weighed on net international migration to the province in the latest two quarters (Table 5). In the first quarter, there was an outflow of 5,896 NPRs, the second straight decline and the largest loss since the fourth quarter of 2010. In Alberta, temporary foreign workers (TFWs) make up a large portion of NPRs; federal changes to the TFW program have contributed to recent outflows of NPRs. For more information on the TFW program, please see:
http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/tools/temp/work/

Natural increase

Alberta grew by 7,642 people during the first quarter of 2015 because of natural increase. This is a result of 14,046 births minus 6,404 deaths (Table 3). Quarterly population growth caused by natural increase alone have been stable for the province in the last decade, around 0.2%. In this quarter, Alberta led all the provinces with a growth rate of 0.18%. The province's relatively young population includes many adults in childbearing years, keeping the number of births well ahead of deaths.

Contact

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Map 1: Net Population Movement for Alberta January 1 to March 31,2015

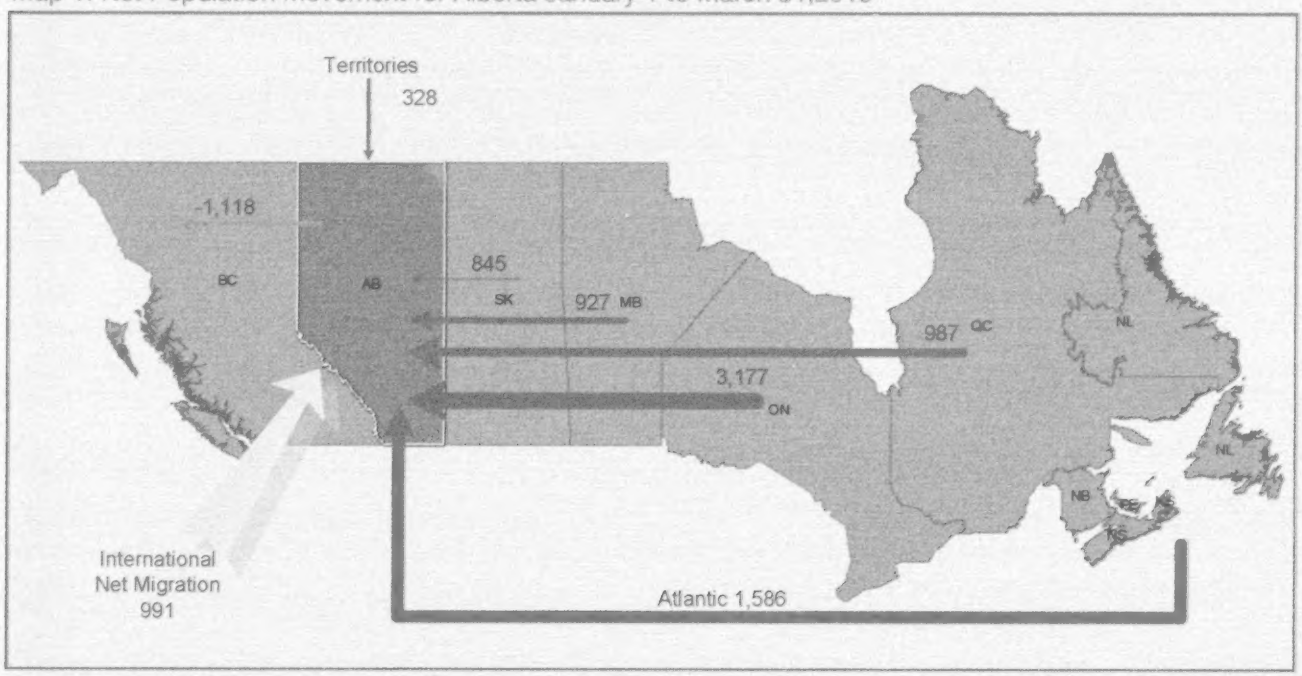

Table 3: Origin and Destination of Interprovincial Migrants January 1 to March 31, 2015

Origin	Destination												
	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
NL	0	53	367	213	53	466	29	45	1,203	83	0	13	0
PEI	31	0	207	115	0	180	0	21	248	37	19	19	0
NS	289	137	0	626	108	1,104	75	152	1,560	385	0	124	14
NB	71	104	633	0	230	1,016	28	47	1,004	222	0	61	0
QC	48	18	65	353	0	3,706	60	119	1,705	581	35	5	45
ON	683	185	1,118	701	2,710	0	1,052	1,249	7,495	3,272	53	157	144
MB	5	17	66	87	74	1,049	0	718	1,703	1,164	0	41	5
SK	44	0	172	52	50	859	663	0	3,055	1,192	28	24	0
AB	894	78	906	551	718	4,318	776	2,210	0	6,998	71	139	22
BC	163	0	359	79	145	2,390	630	635	5,880	0	37	32	6
YT	0	0	28	0	12	0	22	0	68	56	0	0	0
NWT	71	0	93	0	0	139	0	0	474	172	95	0	122
NVT	0	0	18	10	35	149	53	29	18	0	0	50	0

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
IN	2,299	592	4,032	2,787	4,135	15,376	3,388	5,225	24,413	14,162	338	665	358
OUT	2,525	877	4,574	3,416	6,740	18,819	4,929	6,139	17,681	10,356	186	1,166	362
NET	-226	-285	-542	-629	-2,605	-3,443	-1,541	-914	6,732	3,806	152	-501	-4

Q1 2015		PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
Outflow to AB	1203	248	1560	1004	1705	7495	1703	3055	0	5880	68	474	18
Inflow from AB	894	78	906	551	718	4318	776	2210	0	6998	71	139	22
Net Flow to AB	309	170	654	453	987	3,177	927	845	0	-1,118	-3	335	-4

Table 4: Alberta Components of Growth by Quarter

Quarters in Census Year	Interprovincial Migration			International Migration						Total	Vital Events		Total
	In	Out	Net	Immigrants	Net Non-Permanent Residents	Emigrants	Net Temporary Emigrants	Returning Emigrants	Net	Total Net Migration	Births	Deaths	Sum of Components
2010-11													
Jul-Sep	16,766	16,767	-1	9,485	-1,792	2,165	710	1,942	6,760	6,759	13,218	5,110	14,867
Oct-Dec	12,428	11,098	1,330	6,667	-6,610	1,511	475	868	-1,061	269	12,222	5,438	7,053
Jan-Mar	15,768	12,608	3,160	5,916	-309	1,607	471	852	4,381	7,541	12,203	5,582	14,162
Apr-Jun	19,013	15,059	3,954	8,389	1,460	1,459	628	1,569	9,331	13,285	13,210	5,176	21,319
Total	63,975	55,532	8,443	30,457	-7,251	6,742	2,284	5,231	19,411	27,854	50,853	21,306	57,401
2011-12													
Jul-Sep	20,972	17,495	3,477	8,970	2,607	2,966	680	1,843	9,774	13,251	13,404	5,117	21,538
Oct-Dec	14,677	9,560	5,117	7,690	6	1,550	548	795	6,393	11,510	12,223	5,358	18,375
Jan-Mar	21,569	10,849	10,720	7,520	2,560	1,529	528	794	8,817	19,537	12,740	5,712	26,565
Apr-Jun	23,619	15,281	8,338	10,386	5,391	1,621	529	1,432	15,059	23,397	13,870	5,304	31,963
Total	80,837	53,185	27,652	34,566	10,564	7,666	2,285	4,864	40,043	67,695	52,237	21,491	98,441
2012-13													
Jul-Sep	23,833	13,735	10,098	9,086	3,701	3,001	680	1,843	10,949	21,047	13,856	5,317	29,586
Oct-Dec	14,808	6,394	8,414	9,103	-1,336	1,571	548	795	6,443	14,857	12,679	5,575	21,961
Jan-Mar	19,648	10,163	9,485	8,095	5,737	1,549	528	794	12,549	22,034	13,230	5,944	29,320
Apr-Jun	26,313	15,712	10,601	10,582	8,330	1,640	529	1,432	18,175	28,776	14,446	5,522	37,700
Total	84,602	46,004	38,598	36,866	16,432	7,761	2,285	4,864	48,116	86,714	54,211	22,358	118,567
2013-14													
Jul-Sep	26,616	16,347	10,269	9,156	5,487	3,032	680	1,843	12,774	23,043	14,483	5,543	31,983
Oct-Dec	17,477	11,814	5,663	8,806	-60	1,587	548	795	7,406	13,069	13,248	5,808	20,509
Jan-Mar	24,296	14,715	9,581	10,346	699	1,566	528	794	9,745	19,326	13,809	6,187	26,948
Apr-Jun	33,111	19,907	13,204	12,708	601	1,658	530	1,432	12,553	25,757	15,042	5,746	35,053
Total	101,500	62,783	38,717	41,016	6,727	7,843	2,286	4,864	42,478	81,195	56,582	23,284	114,493
2014-15													
Jul-Sep	22,179	15,859	6,320	10,289	431	3,032	680	1,843	8,851	15,171	14,874	5,745	24,300
Oct-Dec	15,155	10,977	4,178	9,180	-5,488	1,587	548	795	2,352	6,530	13,534	6,012	14,052
Jan-Mar	24,413	17,681	6,732	8,187	-5,896	1,566	528	794	991	7,723	14,046	6,404	15,365
Apr-Jun	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	61,747	44,517	17,230	27,656	-10,953	6,185	1,756	3,432	12,194	29,424	42,454	18,161	53,717